

CITY OF LONG BEACH
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS, RECREATION AND MARINE
COMMISSION ON YOUTH AND CHILDREN
MINUTES
JANUARY 28, 2004

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting of the Commission on Youth and Children was called to order by Cynthia Fogg, Superintendent of Youth Services, at 5:05 p.m., in the large conference room at the Parks, Recreation and Marine Senior Center. Roll call was taken and a quorum was confirmed.

<u>Present:</u>	Pierre Batton, Vice Chair	Marc Rothenberg
	Elijah Bowdre	Mary Soth
	Sotheara Chhay	Chanel Suares
	Greg Corbin	Chelsii Summerville
	Kate Levenstein	Jennifer To
	Jeanetta McAlpin	Rebecca Turrentine, Chair
	Jon Meyer	Annie Ung
	Lauren Perry	Christopher Young
	Alexis Peterson	
	Jessica Quintana	

Absent: Dara Din (Excused Absence)

Staff: Phil Hester, Director, Parks, Recreation and Marine
Cynthia Fogg, Superintendent of Youth Services, Parks Recreation and Marine
Andrew Romero, Youth Specialist, Parks Recreation and Marine
Carmina Gonzalez, Clerk, Parks Recreation and Marine

Guests: Diane Jacobus, Office of Mayor Beverly O'Neill
Cecile Harris Walters, Neighborhood Service Bureau

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

N/A for initial meeting

III. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT TO THE COMMISSION

Cynthia Fogg recommended that her monthly report to the CYC be a verbal one and in the future if and when there is enough information she will do a written report.

Phil Hester, Director of Parks, Recreation and Marine welcomed the Commissioners and stated that this is an exciting time in the City of Long Beach because the formation of a citywide youth commission has been on the radar screen since the City approved it's last Strategic Plan. He encouraged Commissioners to participate and bring forth ideas and he stated that the Department of Parks, Recreation and Marine is committed to provide

the staff support and resources needed by the CYC. He congratulated the Commissioners on their appointments to the first official city-wide youth commission.

Cynthia Fogg announced District 4 Councilmember Dennis Carroll has requested that representatives of the CYC attend a Gang Summit that will take place on Saturday, February 7th. She said the purpose of the summit is to address the issues of gang violence and graffiti which Councilmember Carroll alleges are plaguing the City of Long Beach. She encouraged Commissioners to attend the summit, as it will be a good opportunity to hear issues and concerns from the public and a report from the Deputy City Manager regarding the City's effort to reduce gang violence. Phil Hester stated that the Chief of Police will do a presentation at the summit as to what's been going on in the City that will not focus solely on suppression but on prevention and intervention as well. He said that there will be participation from the City Prosecutor and some local judges and other departments have been asked to attend to provide information to the public. Mr. Hester stated that the City has put together a task force that includes City staff and multiple community agencies and groups that are working within the community to try to bring together a united focus on the various issues. He also stated this task force is a result of a report to City Council that was done a month or so ago by the Long Beach Human Relations Committee that talks about the issues which were studied for two years. He said that this was referred to the City Managers office to create a task force and bring together all possible resources to really be able to focus on, address and resolve some of these issues. Mr. Hester encouraged CYC Commissioners to attend the summit and stated that because it is being run by City Council members it will provide an opportunity to participate and talk to City Council in a public forum on a more informal basis. Ms. Fogg asked where this summit will take place. Mr. Hester responded that the location has not been confirmed but once we have that information we will contact CYC Commissioners.

Cynthia Fogg announced that a student at USC's Journalism Department is requesting an interview with her and any Commissioners who would like to participate for an article she is writing on the CYC as an assignment in her class. Ms. Fogg stated that the student read an article in the paper about the CYC and is very interested in where this Commission is going. The interview will take place in Ms. Fogg's office on January 29th at 9:30 a.m.

A. CYC MANUAL PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION

Commissioners were presented with their own CYC Manual. Cynthia Fogg generally explained each section in the table of contents and she stated that numerous items would be discussed in further detail at a later date.

B. MONTHLY REPORT DISCUSSION

This item was discussed in Agenda Item III.

IV. COMMISSION ACTION ITEMS

#04-01
ELECTION OF CYC OFFICERS

Cynthia Fogg stated that it is required by Municipal Code Section 1.18.060 that the CYC elect a Chair and a Vice Chair as a minimum and it is the staffs recommendation that the Chair be an adult member and the Vice Chair be a youth member. Ms. Fogg asked for nominations for Chair. Commissioner Turrentine nominated herself and stated that she just recently retired as a Superintendent with the Bellflower School District and her job was to coordinate a broad array of youth services including education, health and social services so she is familiar with the ground that the CYC is going to travel. She also stated that the school district ran its board meetings according to Roberts Rules of Order and the Brown Act, which the CYC needs to structure its meetings by. Commissioner Turrentine said that because she is retired she has the time to give a little extra to the CYC and its something she would really enjoy doing if she is elected. Commissioner Soth stated that she is endorsing Commissioner Turrentine's self-nomination. There were no further nominations.

It was moved by Commissioner Soth and seconded by Commissioner Meyer to elect Commissioner Turrentine as Chair. The motion carried unanimously.

Cynthia Fogg congratulated Commissioner Turrentine and asked her to take lead of the meeting.

Commissioner Turrentine asked for nominations for Vice Chair of the Executive Committee. She stated that the staff recommendation is that the Vice Chair be a youth member. Commissioner Meyer nominated Commissioner Batton and stated that he is an outstanding young man with great leadership capabilities. Commissioner Turrentine asked Commissioner Batton to tell the group about himself. Commissioner Batton stated that he is a junior at Long Beach Poly High School, he plays Varsity Tennis and does volunteer work. Commissioner Bowdre nominated Commissioner Soares and stated that he attended Youth Leadership Long Beach with her and she is an outstanding leader and a great speaker with wonderful ideas. Commissioner Turrentine asked Commissioner Soares to tell the group a little about herself. Commissioner Soares stated that she went through Youth Leadership Long Beach and she is a member of Varsity Crew, she does volunteer work as well and is really looking forward to working on this Commission. There were no other nominations or further discussion.

A ballot vote was taken. Commissioner Turrentine announced that the Vice Chair is Pierre Batton.

#04-02

CREATION OF AN EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND OTHER COMMITTEES

Commissioner Turrentine stated that it is the staff recommendation to have an Executive Committee and that it include the Chair, Vice Chair and one additional adult member and one additional youth member.

It was moved by Commissioner Young and seconded by Commissioner McAlpin that the youth who was not elected as the Vice Chair be the additional youth member on the Executive Committee and in this case would be Commissioner Suares. The motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Turrentine asked for nominations for the additional adult member of the Executive Committee. Commissioner Young nominated himself. He stated that he grew-up in Long Beach and is fairly involved with community organizations and in the last few years has become very involved with youth issues such as work readiness. He also stated that this is something that he cares very deeply about and he would be happy to serve on the Executive Committee.

It was moved and seconded to elect Commissioner Young as the additional adult member on the Executive Committee. The motion carried unanimously.

#04-03
BYLAWS FOR THE CYC

Commissioner Turrentine stated that it is the staff recommendation to have no bylaws for the CYC at this time. Phil Hester stated that the other Commissions in Parks, Recreation and Marine do have bylaws that they use as guiding principals to operate their Commissions. He also stated that the staff can provide samples of these bylaws to the Executive Committee so that they can discuss and bring this to a future meeting of the CYC where the decision whether or not to have bylaws can be made.

V. COMMITTEE STATUS REPORTS

N/A for initial meeting.

VI. CORRESPONDENCE

N/A for initial meeting.

VII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

N/A for initial meeting.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

A. Strategic Plan 2010, Education & Youth Component Discussion

Cynthia Fogg referred to agenda item VIII-A a copy of the Long Beach Strategic Plan 2010, Education and Youth portion. She explained that five or six years ago the community came together at the call of the Mayor and City Council to put a strategic plan together and that the final plan was adopted by City Council and published for the public in 2000. Miss Fogg reviewed the document and stated that the creation of the CYC was the result of the action item that came from the Strategic Plan and in the section titled Goals and Strategic Actions this item is discussed in more detail. Miss Fogg stated that it is the staff recommendation to adopt the *Strategic Plan 2010, Education and Youth*

component as a standing discussion at each meeting. She also stated that it is her understanding that the CYC would have some type of oversight to the implementation of some of the recommendations from the Strategic Plan 2010.

It was moved and seconded to adopt the Strategic Plan 2010, Education and Youth Component as a standing item of the CYC. The motion carried unanimously.

B. Youth member update on District Level Youth Advisory Committee (DLYAC) meetings

Cynthia Fogg referred to agenda item VIII-B a copy of DLYAC meeting schedule. She stated that by resolution, the youth members of the CYC are to be members of a DLYAC from the district in which he/she resides in if it exists and the schedule was created to assist the CYC youth members with getting involved. Miss Fogg stated that it is the staff recommendation to receive and file the DLYAC meeting schedule and adopt *DLYAC Comments* as a standing item for discussion at each meeting which should include a monthly report from the youth member. Phil Hester stated that Andrew Romero will be working as a liason between the CYC and the DLYACs. Andrew Romero stated that there were some districts that have yet to create their own DLYAC due to a lack of staff. Commissioner Young asked if a letter could be drafted to help prompt those council districts to move forward with creating their DLYAC. Mr. Romero said that he thought that was a good idea. Phil Hester agreed and suggested the letter be signed by the CYC Chair and CYC youth member from that district.

It was moved and seconded to receive and file the DLYAC meeting schedule and adopt the DLYAC Comments as a standing item for discussion to include a monthly report from the youth member. The motion carried unanimously.

It was moved and seconded that a letter be drafted and sent to the council districts to request that they form a DLYAC in their district if they haven't already done so and that these meetings should be held monthly to coincide just prior to CYC meetings. Also the letter will be signed by the Chair and youth Commissioner of that district. The motion carried unanimously.

C. Discussion of appointment to the Youth and Gang Violence Steering Committee

Cynthia Fogg referred to agenda item VIII-C, An Interim Report and Re-examination of the Problem of Youth and Gang Violence in the City of Long Beach. She stated that the Long Beach Human Relations Commission submitted this report to City Council on November 4, 2003 and a copy the Executive Summary has been provided for the CYC but a copy of the full report was available if so desired. Miss Fogg pointed out the recommendation from the Human Relations Commission to city Council that the City convenes a citywide intervention task force representative of the major leadership sectors of the community and the CYC is listed as one of these representatives. She stated that this item was referred to the City Manager by City Council in November and the City Manager assigned this action to Deputy City Manager Reggie Harrison where the task force is now being created in multiple levels. She also stated that there is a

Steering Committee of the task force and it is the staff recommendation that a member of the CYC be appointed to it.

It was moved and seconded that a member of the CYC be appointed to the Steering Committee of the Youth and Gang Violence Task Force and that it be added as a standing item of the CYC. The motion carried unanimously.

Phil Hester stated that there has been some discussion as to whether there should be both an adult and a youth member of the CYC on the task force. Commissioner Meyer recommended that at this time it would be best to appoint only an adult to get a feel for it and come back with a recommendation for further representation later. Commissioner Rothenberg disagreed and stated that he felt a youth appointment was important. After further discussion Commissioner Meyer withdrew his recommendation.

It was moved and seconded that the appointment to the Steering Committee of the Youth and Gang Violence Task Force be as follows: One adult, Commissioner Rothenberg and one adult alternate, Commissioner To, one youth member, Commissioner Bowdre and one youth alternate, Commissioner Chhay. Included with that motion each of the CYC youth members will bring input back from their DLYAC meetings to help provide Steering Committee members with quality information. The motion carried unanimously.

IX. COMMENTS

Cynthia Fogg stated that this item is reserved for staff, Commissioners and the public to make comments that are not on the agenda and she asked if it were better to move this item to the beginning of the agenda for future meetings.

It was moved and seconded that the Comments item be moved to the beginning of the agenda. The motion carried unanimously.

Diane Jacobus, Senior Advisor to the Mayor was introduced and she welcomed the Commissioners and thanked them on behalf of the Mayor.

X. NEXT MEETING

It was moved and seconded that February's meeting be held at the same time and place and that this item be discussed on that agenda.

The next meeting will be held at 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday, February 25, 2004, in the large conference room #202 at the Parks, Recreation and Marine Senior Center, 1150 E. 4th Street, Long beach.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Turrentine adjourned the meeting at 7:20 p.m.